

"The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified." (John 12:23)

1 April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Holy Week is such an important week in our Church and school calendar, and to experience it in another national lockdown is certainly not what any of us would have wished for this time last year. However, there are very clear similes in the message of Holy Week and the current national situation.

We have been asked to sacrifice so much this past year and each and every one of us has sacrificed something. In a week when we are more pointedly aware of Christ's own sacrifice through his crucifixion than at any other time of the year, it seems more relevant than ever to be reminded that God will never test us beyond what we can bear and that we share the same hope for a brighter future through Christ's resurrection.

In this Holy Week I ask that you continue to join me in prayer, that as Christ did, we too might come through this testing period sure in the knowledge of a brighter future and the promise of salvation and redemption through faith in the resurrection.

This Holy Week, in the continued absence of perhaps not being able to attend services in our parishes I have shared with you a piece at the end of my letter that reminds us of the importance of the cross.

As we end this Spring Term, I also want to thank each and every member of our school family for all that they have given this term. To the students for their resilience, dedication and patience. So much has been thrown at them since January and they have come through this very tough period with great humility and good grace. To our parents and carers for their commitment and support of all that we are trying to achieve at Hagley but especially for all your efforts with home learning. And to the staff, for their diligence and professionalism, for always rising to the challenge and not renegeing on the promise to always put your children first, regardless of the barriers and hurdles before them.

Return for the Summer Term

All students return to school after the Easter break on Monday 19th April and the half-term runs until Friday 28th May 2021. On students return to school for the summer I ask that you ensure your child is fully prepared for a summer term of learning and high standards. This means making sure their bag is well stocked with equipment and that their uniform meets the uniform standards and expectations.

We have given some leeway this past 4 weeks with access to shops being difficult, but this will not be the case for the summer term. Where uniform expectations cannot be met from Monday 19th April, we will be loaning uniform in school to re address this. As ever if you have any queries regarding this or need some support with uniform please contact Mr Barratt on gbarratt@hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk.



Home Testing

Even though we break up for Easter this week home testing continues. All students, where consent was received, were provided with enough home testing kits to last until Sunday 18th April 2021 inclusive. Please continue to support your child in taking their tests twice per week ideally Wednesday/Thursday and Sundays. You should continue to report results to school and NHS Track and Trace and can find a link to both on the school website homepage.

We anticipate that home testing will continue after Easter but as yet have not been supplied the necessary kits for this. As ever all documentation and guidance can be found at <https://www.hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk/Page/Detail/covid-19>.

Reporting a Positive Test

We have had no reportable cases of COVID 19 since the end of November thankfully, and long may this continue. In the event that your child does contract COVID 19 it is important that you report this to school. This includes over the first 6 days of the Easter holidays as I am required to support the track and trace process during this time. In the event that you child does contract COVID 19 between now and Wednesday 7th April 2021. Please report this directly to me at jhodgson@hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk. Reporting of cases during term time should still be via reception@hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk.

Please be further advised that guidance changed once again yesterday and therefore if your child had a positive LFD home test you must then register for a confirmatory PCR test. The PCR test should be booked immediately either [online](#) or by calling 119 and should be undertaken within 2 days.

COVID-19 Control Measures

As things stand all the current control measures that are in place will continue after the Easter holidays. This includes the wearing of masks in lessons. However, should the guidance on this change over the Easter holidays then I will be sure to get in touch.

Easter School

We are running an Easter school for students in examinations years over Easter and letters and information has been sent out separately about this to the relevant year groups.

Outside of these intervention sessions the school is closed, and the school phone line and email is not monitored so any messages left will be responded to on our return on Monday 19th April 2021.

Assessments

Key Stage 3 exams week was originally calendared for the week beginning Monday 26th April 2021. This week of more formal assessments will not take place due to the internal assessments that have had to be planned to support the awarding of Teacher Assessed Grades to Year 11 and 13.

Consequently, all Key Stage 3 students will continue to be assessed through their classwork, homework and tests completed in class next term rather than a fixed exam window.

Lenten Charities

The efforts of the whole school community to support our chosen Lenten charities has been fantastic. Your donations of Easter eggs led to a delivery to the local St Vincent de Paul group (SVP) and to the foodbank in Stourbridge. Your donations through Parent Pay to MIND through our non-uniform day last Friday, and CAFOD through our Walk for Water initiative, raised £870 and £1160 respectively as of Monday 29th March. The window for donations to these two charities remains open until the end of the Easter holidays if you would still like to make a donation.

Extra-curricular Provision

We will be opening up our extracurricular provision at lunchtimes and after-school when we return for the summer term. I know I have promised this before but are more hopeful than ever that this can definitely happen. This means that PE, music, arts, computing and other clubs will be up and running and information will be shared directly by leads in these areas once published. The PE and Sports Clubs lunchtime timetable will be sent to you with this letter.

Train to Teach Through Emmaus MAC

This past year has been one of the most difficult years in education, and more than ever, the country needs passionate and committed teachers to help our children make up for the many hours of lost learning time as a result of the pandemic. If you or someone you know is interested in teaching and already has a degree, then the 'Schools Direct' program through Our Lady and St Hubert's Catholic Primary School may be of interest. School Direct is a route into Initial Teacher Training, that places the school-based programme at the heart of the experience. This means that the course is based in school for the majority of the time. Training will take place in an environment that has an established reputation for excellence in teaching. For more information on their School Direct programme, visit their website [here](#).

School Phone Line

The school phone line has been updated and is now operational. When you call you will have a choice of options and it is important that you press the correct number as staff might not be able to redirect your call. The options available are as follows:

- Press 1 for Student Absence or attendance queries
- Press 2 for Staff Absence Reporting
- Press 3 for Admissions
- Press 4 for Finance
- Press 5 for Transport
- Press 0 for all other enquiries – go through to main office

Chaplaincy

Students from the Year 7 Chaplaincy Team will be starting a gardening project after Easter; this starts in the Memorial Garden and will (in Summer 2) move to the Eco Garden. This will be exclusive to Year 7 initially but from Monday 21st June will open to chaplaincy reps in all years.

It will take place on Wednesdays after-school until 4:30pm. Students will need to bring clothes to get changed in to, so they are not ruining their uniforms. More details to come with further information available from Mr Thomas (Lay Chaplain) at lthomas@hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk.

**BLACK COUNTRY
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Certificate of Appreciation and Thanks awarded to:-

Everyone at the Hagley Catholic High School



A huge thank you to all of you, from Replenish Foodbank in Stourbridge, for collecting and donating over 150 Easter Eggs, for children in our local community.

Registered Charity No: 1136676

EASTER 2021

Finally, it only leaves me to wish you all a very happy and Holy Easter.

With every good wish prayer and blessing.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Hodgson

Principal

Twitter: @Principal_HCCHS

Email: jhodgson@hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk

You tore the veil, You made a way, When You said that it is done.

The words 'it is finished' are perhaps the three most important words in the entire Bible. The plan of salvation begun from the very beginning is realized and completed in the obedience of Jesus to the Father. Through the cross Jesus creates a bridge between us and the father. The cross is our reminder that we are saved in Jesus, not because we deserve it but because the power of God's grace can overcome anything.

But When Jesus says it is finished what does he mean?

God came to earth so that we may go to heaven.

God became human so that we might become divine.

The Son of God became a slave so that we could be set free.

Jesus was rejected so that we might be accepted.

Jesus forgave so that we would forgive.

Jesus was convicted so that we might have conviction.

Jesus was sold so that we could be redeemed.

Jesus was hurt so that we could be healed.

Jesus was scourged – we were purged.

Jesus descended into hell so that might ascend to heaven.

Jesus was crowned with thorns that we might have the crown of eternal life.

The sky went dark so that we might see the light.

The earth shook so that we might be calm.

Jesus was condemned as guilty so that we might be found innocent.

Jesus carried his cross so that Satan's plan would be crossed out.

Jesus' heart was opened by a spear so that our hearts might be opened by love.

These are the things that Jesus accomplished in his death and what he meant by the words it is finished. I am often struck by the Centurions words 'this truly was the son of God'. On the day of his death Jesus transformed lives and he continues to transform lives today because of what he accomplished in death.

This Holy Week let us remember all these wonderful things that are offered to us on the cross. Let us renew our focus on the great love that the father has for us in letting his only son be humiliated and killed for us. When Jesus says it is finished, he means it. All things are accomplished on the cross. Like the Centurion, let us allow Jesus' death on the cross continue to transform our lives.